

Image



03500.016112

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| | : | Examiner: M. Budd |
| TAKAYUKI TSUKIMOTO, ET AL. |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: 2834 |
| Application No.: 10/044,936 |) | |
| | : | |
| Filed: January 15, 2002 |) | |
| | : | |
| For: VIBRATION ELEMENT AND |) | November 4, 2003 |
| VIBRATION WAVE DRIVING | : | |
| APPARATUS |) | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed documents is also enclosed.

FOREIGN PATENTS:

| <u>Patent No.</u> | <u>Country</u> | <u>Publication Date</u> |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 1 039 558 | Europe | September 27, 2000 |
| 2000-262077 | Japan | September 22, 2000 |
| 04-091668 | Japan | March 25, 1992 |

REMARKS

The above-listed document were cited in an official communication from the European Patent Office in connection with a corresponding European patent application. A copy of a Search Report indicating how these references are deemed material to the European patent application also is enclosed as an English language statement of relevance for the Examiner's consideration.

FEE STATEMENT

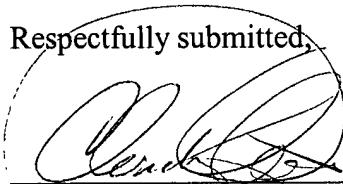
Since this paper is being submitted within three (3) months of the mailing date of the communication from the European Patent Office, Applicants believe that no fee is necessitated by this paper. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Wrist", is written over a horizontal line.

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